

REMARKS

Status Summary

Claims 1-40 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-12 and 22-35 have been allowed. Claims 20-21 have been indicated as allowable. Claims 13-19 and 36-40 presently stand rejected. Claim 17 has further been objected to for informalities. The Amendments to the specification are to correct minor typographical errors only and do not add any new matter to the specification. Support for the amendments to the specification can be found, for example, in Figures 6 and 7A.

Allowed and Allowable Claims

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 1-12 and 22-35. Applicants also acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter of claims 20-21. Claim 20 has been rewritten to include all of the elements of independent claim 13. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 20 and 21 should also be allowed.

Claim Objection for Informality

Claim 17 has been objected to for informalities. Claim 17 has been amended as requested. Accordingly, the objection should now be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 36, 39 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0192294 to Pan et al., hereinafter referred to as "Pan." This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 36 recites a method for providing handover support in a media gateway. According to claim 36, a context having a first termination is established in a media gateway. Claim 36 has been amended to recite that the context comprises a media stream connection for carrying media communications between the first termination and an announcement server within the media gateway. Support for this amendment is found, for example in Figure 8 and the associated description of the present specification where a context is established between termination T1 and an announcement server within the media gateway before a call can be connected to another endpoint. Claim 36 further recites that when a handover event occurs affecting the first termination, a second termination is added to the context and paired with the first termination. The termination pairing creates a media stream connection between the announcement server and the second termination so that media communications between the second termination and the announcement server can proceed through the media gateway using the first context. Accordingly, claim 36 recites a method for providing handover support in a media gateway where termination pairing is used to seamlessly establish media stream communications with a new termination using the same context used for the media stream communications before the handover event.

There is absolutely no disclosure, teaching, or suggestion in Pan of a method for providing handover support in a media gateway that involves establishing a context that includes a media stream connection for carrying media communications between a termination and an announcement server within a media gateway or pairing terminations so that the media communications can be moved to a new termination that uses the same context within the media gateway in response to a handover event. In contrast to providing handover support within a media gateway, Pan is directed to a method for using a media gateway to direct an external handover event. For example, Pan states:

Herein, the connection between the media gateway and the mobile station shall be referred to as a first call leg. The media gateway then establishes a second call leg with the mobile station so that the first and second call legs exist concurrently, handover communication from the first call leg to the second call leg, and disconnects the first call leg after the handover has been completed. (Emphasis added.) (See paragraph [0025] of Pan.)

From the above-quoted passage, Pan is directed to using a media gateway to establish call legs external to the media gateway because the passage indicates that the call legs are between the media gateway and a mobile station, which is external to the media gateway. There is absolutely no disclosure, teaching, or suggestion in Pan of media gateway that performs termination pairing for directing media communications from a first termination to a second termination within a media gateway and using the same context. Pan is silent on the manner in which media gateway **210** establishes terminations or contexts associated with the external call legs. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 36, 39, and 40 as anticipated by Pan should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 13-16, 18 are 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pan in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,765,931 to Rabenko, et al., hereinafter referred to as "Rabenko." This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 13 recites a media gateway with improved handover support. The media gateway includes network interfaces for sending and receiving media streams to and from external networks, a plurality of voice processing resources associated with network interfaces for processing media streams received from external networks, and a controller that provides handover support within the media gateway. Independent claim 13 has been amended to recite that the controller establishes a context including first and second terminations and that the context carries media stream communications between the first and second terminations within the media gateway. In response to a handover event, the controller pairs a third termination with the first termination and switches the media stream communications between first and second end users to proceed through the media gateway between the second and third terminations using the first context. Thus, claim 13 recites a media gateway with a controller for providing handover support by performing termination pairing to switch media stream communications from one termination associated with a context to another termination associated with the same context in a media gateway.

As stated above, there is absolutely no teaching or suggestion in Pan of any operations relating to switching media stream communications between terminations within a media gateway. Rather, as evidenced by the above-quoted passage from Pan, Pan is directed to using a media gateway to switch call legs between the media

gateway and a mobile terminal involved in a handover where the call legs are external to the media gateway.

Rabenko likewise fails to teach or suggest using termination pairing to switch media stream communications within a media gateway involved in a handover. Rabenko is directed to a voice gateway that connects with a cable modem head end for establishing voice communications over a packet network. There is absolutely no teaching or suggestion in Rabenko of any system for providing handover support, not to mention a system that provides handover support using termination pairing for switching media stream communications within a media gateway to a new termination using an existing context. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 13-16, 18, and 19 as unpatentable over Pan in view of Rabenko should be withdrawn.

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pan in view of Rabenko as applied to claim 13 and further in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0235477 to Picha, et al., hereinafter referred to as "Picha." This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 17 depends from claim 13. As stated above with regard to the rejection of claim 13, Pan and Rabenko fail to teach or suggest a media gateway that provides handover support by establishing a context including first and second terminations that carry media communications between first and second terminations in a media gateway and that pairs a third termination with the first termination to switch the media stream communications within the media gateway to the new termination where the new termination uses the same context. Rather than teaching a system where termination pairing is used and where the media stream communications with the new termination

use the existing context, Picha teaches that a new context is required for when a handover event occurs. For example, Picha states:

When a handover is necessary, a new termination T3 is created in the context **30A**, and a new context 30B is created. The new context **30B** includes a pair of terminations T4 and T5. (See paragraph [0024] of Picha.)

From the above-quoted passage and in all of the remaining examples in Picha, Picha indicates that a new context with two new terminations is required in order to provide handover support in a media gateway. In contrast, independent claim 13 recites that a termination and a preexisting context are used to provide handover support. Thus, the subject matter of claim 13 requires fewer resources than the solution described in Picha. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 17 as unpatentable over Pan in view of Rabenko in view of Picha should be withdrawn.

Claim 37 is rejected by the under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pan as applied to claim 36 in view of Picha. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 37 depends from claim 36. As stated above with regard to the rejection of claim 36 as anticipated by Pan, Pan fails to teach or suggest a method for providing handover support within a media gateway where a new termination is paired with an existing termination so that a preexisting context can be used to provide media stream communications in the media gateway to the new termination. Picha requires that a new context be created to provide handover support within a media gateway. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 37 as unpatentable over Pan in view of Picha should be withdrawn.

Claim 38 is under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pan as applied to claim 36 in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0228336 to Kung, et al., hereinafter referred to as "Kung." This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 38 depends from claim 36. As stated above with regard to the rejection of claim 36, Pan fails to teach or suggest using termination pairing to use an existing context to provide handover support and move media stream communications from one termination to another termination within a media gateway. Kung likewise lacks such teaching or suggestion. Kung is directed to providing a personal IP toll free number and has nothing to do with handover. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 38 as unpatentable over Pan in view of Kung should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in proper condition for allowance, and an early notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

If any small matter should remain outstanding after the Patent Examiner has had an opportunity to review the above Remarks and Amendments, the Patent Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned patent attorney in order to resolve these matters and avoid the issuance of another Official Action.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

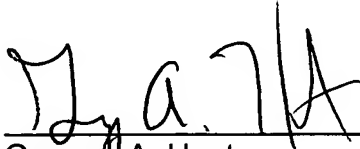
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the filing of this correspondence to Deposit Account No. 50-0426.

Respectfully submitted,

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